

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested. No claims have been amended or canceled. Claims 1-60 remain pending in the application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to Figs. 1-7 for failing to include a legend designating each figure as prior art. These figures have been amended as required by the Examiner. Hence, Applicants request that this objection be withdrawn.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-60 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the "Statement of Product Sale" (hereinafter, the "Statement") submitted by Applicants. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In order for a reference to anticipate a claim, the reference must show each and every element of the claim. In the case of claims 1-60, this requirement is clearly not met by the "Statement".

Claims 1-24

Claims 1-24 deal with abstracting a precharged latch. This subject is not discussed in the "Statement". The "Statement" discloses a method for recognizing precharge, and a separate method for recognizing a latch, but it does not disclose a unified method for abstracting a precharged latch. Abstracting a precharged latch involves different methodology than that disclosed in the "Statement". This difference in methodology is manifested in at least one aspect of claims 1-24. Specifically, each of the independent claims (claims 1, 9, and 17) in this group of claims recites a limitation wherein a determination is made on a first resultant cofactor to

determine whether that cofactor indicates: (1) a first node experiencing a precharge; and (2) a second node maintaining a previous logic value. This limitation is not disclosed in the "Statement". More specifically, the "Statement" does not disclose or discuss any methodology in which these two conditions are checked for in the same cofactor. Because at least this aspect of claims 1-24 is not disclosed by the "Statement", Applicants submit that claims 1-24 are not anticipated by the "Statement". Hence, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 25-60

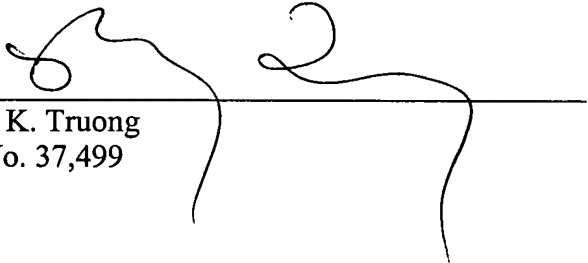
Claims 25-60 deal with abstracting a precharged flip-flop. This subject is also not discussed in the "Statement". The "Statement" discloses a method for recognizing precharge, but it does not disclose a method for recognizing a flip-flop much less a unified method for abstracting a precharged flip-flop. The difference in methodology between claims 25-60 and the "Statement" is manifested in at least one aspect of claims 25-60. Specifically, each of the independent claims (claims 25, 37, and 49) in this group of claims recites a limitation wherein a determination is made on a first resultant cofactor to determine whether that cofactor indicates: (1) a first node experiencing a first precharge; and (2) a second node experiencing a second precharge; and (3) a third node maintaining a previous logic value. This limitation is not disclosed in the "Statement". More specifically, the "Statement" does not disclose or discuss any methodology in which these three conditions are checked for in the same cofactor. Because at least this aspect of claims 25-60 is not disclosed by the "Statement", Applicants submit that claims 25-60 are not anticipated by the "Statement". Hence, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

For the reasons given above, Applicants submit that all of the pending claims are patentable over the art of record, including the art cited but not applied. Accordingly, allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned directly.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

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Bobby K. Truong
Reg. No. 37,499

1600 Willow Street
San Jose, California 95125-5106
Telephone No.: (408) 414-1080 ext. 234
Facsimile No.: (408) 414-1076

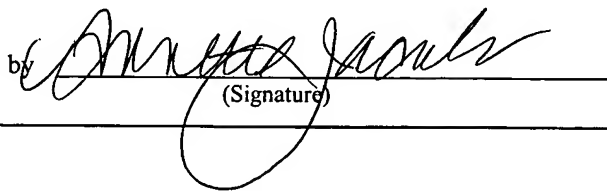
Enclosures

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

on July 28, 2004
(Date)

by


(Signature)